

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY, TOWN OF ARLINGTON

20 ACADEMY STREET, SUITE 203, ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02476-6436 (781) 316-3431



Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2013

Members in Attendance: Kerrie Fallon, Rachel Buonopane, Michael Rademacher, John Thompson, Susan James, Heidi Hample

Members Absent: Kerrie Fallon, Janice Dallas, Maureen St.Hilaire, Molly Flueckiger

Others Present: Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator, Ted Wilson (Schools for Children)

Meeting began at 4:05 pm

- 1. Meeting minutes from 5/15/13 approved with correction to defining AAB to Architectural Access Board**
- 2. Review of Design of Property owned by School For Children (19 Foster St)**
 - Ted Wilson returned to meeting to update Commission
 - The rear porch has been removed and the lift will be installed to 1st and 2nd floors with a vestibule area to fully protect the lift and users from outside weather
 - Permits in place and work has begun, again the building entrance has been changed from the front on Foster St to the rear with access to the parking lot of the other school programs
 - Bathrooms on both floors to be accessible
 - Plan to be in by September
 - Curb cut from parking lot to new building has been done
- 3. Accessibility at the Peirce Elementary School**
 - Commission issued written letter from Jack Jones to town member who voiced concern (Ms. Oranchak), invited to attend a meeting
 - Michael Rademacher reviewed the town's involvement in other renovations/repairs at the Peirce
 - Heidi, Kerrie, John plan to meet next week to review
- 4. Curb cut Ramp Project**
 - Current contract for FY 2013 is almost completed
 - 8 ramps left, may have money for 8 to carry over to FY 2014
 - Michael provided handouts to the group regarding curb cut ramps requested by Disability office for FY 2014, and responses regarding plans and maps to display towns plan for street work in the upcoming years (Thank You!)
 - Many of the suggested locations for new/ altered curb cut ramps are in the areas where street renovations are to take place in the next 1-2 years, and will be done along with those projects

- Town is requesting resubmission for other areas in need of upgrades, with target date of end of July
- Work to begin hopefully July/August
- *John to follow up with Michael/Town regarding resubmission of locations*
- Curb cut ramp at Arlington High School completed, now working on reallocating handicap parking space
- Update on Academy St project
- Currently on hold
- Some Neighbors have reported concerns over concrete sidewalks and reportedly would like to keep their differing sidewalks in front of each of their houses
- The paving of the street has been put on hold at this time as well, as it would not be fiscally responsible to perform part of the project and return later for the rest, therefore the whole project has been put on hold until the dispute can be resolved
- May be held up for 2 years (town master plan see #6)

5. Plans to Improve Accessible Parking at 20 Academy St.

- Design concept issued to Commission members present
- Driveway will be Asphalt with stone dust (red)
- Concrete driveway ramps will remain with wire-cut brick sidewalks and area leading up to entrance of building
- No display of accessible parking in the plan, potentially two spaces on the street between the entrance and exit, discussion of other spaces in lot close to walk way from side of building (though unsure of grade of walkway and whether it would need to be regulated as a ramp)

6. Town's Master Plan

- Will be ongoing for 2 years
- Discussion of commission members getting involved

7. Disability Commission Conference in Marlborough

- Molly attended, will report back to us at next meeting

8. Disability Commission meeting (multi-town) in Medford

- several towns got together to compare notes
- attendees were primarily ADA coordinators
- good information at the meeting
- Transition plans (required) for compliance with ADA regulations, Arlington's plan completed in 1994
- Reading had consultant from US Dept of Justice, reviews have taken place, review of their plan and survey of buildings and surfaces in town

9. Summer Meeting Schedule

- Members present agreed to keep July and August meetings on schedule

10. Mass Ave Corridor Project

- Plan going ahead
- Will be 2 lanes toward Cambridge and 1 lane coming in (with turning lanes)

11. Town Day 2013

- September 21, 2013 (mark your calendar)
- We will participate again this year
- Newsletter discussed to report projects completed over the past year
- How can we ask for feedback for town members to get better connected to needs of people in town

12. Goals for FY 2014

- website
- reaching out to businesses in East Arlington
- developing Commission on Disability seal of approval for businesses that are accessible
- Social event- host something fun for members of the town with disabilities

13. Other Business

- Group that lives on private way approached Michael regarding renovations they plan to do to their street
- Would like to slow traffic down, possibly stripe a crosswalk
- Question posed to Commission, do they need ramps... the crosswalk would lead to grassy area on each side (no sidewalk). Answer at this time was no need for ramps.
- Accessible Icon project introduced to group by Rachel
- new accessible symbol developed and Triangle (Disability Advocacy and Employment) have been performing outreach to spread this symbol and it is being used in several private lots and now being accepted by individual towns (Burlington...)
- EPIC (empowering people in inclusive communities), a volunteer group of young adults with disabilities have been repainting spots throughout Massachusetts (and other states) where approved
- Rachel would like to invite Jeff Lafata to a future meeting to discuss this project with the commission
- www.accessibleicon.org
- HUD Housing
- Arlington Housing Authority (not Town department) associated with HUD/federal housing
- Drake Village- reports that parts of the building are known to "shake", quite disturbing to residents
- One resident asking for assistance/support regarding request to move

Meeting adjourned 6:05pm

Next Meeting set July 17, 2013